Work With Your Child's Teachers



Give your child a head start for a successful school year by building a positive relationship with his or her teachers. Let these professionals know at the beginning of the year that you look forward to forming a partnership in educating your child.

Share information about your child's talents, study habits and personality. If you are shy or intimidated about speaking with teachers, try practicing with a friend.

As the school year continues consider these actions to stay connected:

- Communicate often. Whether by email, phone, in-person or notes, stay in touch regularly with your child's teachers. A report card should not catch you off-guard.
- Write everything down. Put your questions, requests and notes in writing, which can help you prepare for teacher conferences.
- Contact the teacher if your child has a problem in class or with homework. Avoid being defensive. Be open to solving the problem together.
- Attend parent-teacher and PTA meetings. Take questions with you. Share family changes that may have had an impact on your child.
- Nolunteer in class, chaperone a trip or donate classrooms supplies. ■

Children benefit when parents and teachers work together as a team. Do your part.

